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AN EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT OF FURNITURE

In last year's report attention was called to the pressing need of new cases in the East Gallery, to permit the carrying out of long-cherished plans for the more effective arrangement of the collections of ceramics, carvings, metal-work, enamels, glass and furniture. The last is one of the best public collections of the kind in this country, but the inadequate space which, under existing conditions, is available for it, has prevented its proper installation. The furniture of all countries and periods is now crowded together on narrow platforms at each side of the Gallery, while the central space is entirely occupied by antiquated floor cases which are unsuitable for the effective display of the other collections. By erecting new cases for the better accommodation of the collections mentioned, much of the floor space of the apartment could be fitted up with appropriate booths for the geographical and chronological arrangement of furniture. By making these changes the installation of the Japanese house, which since 1893 has been stored in the basement, would be made possible.

With a view to effecting these much desired changes, which it was believed would cost about \$5000, careful estimates have been obtained and it has been found that the expense of procuring the desired cases will be considerably less than was at first supposed. New cases of the most approved pattern in hard wood, with plate glass fronts and the best quality of hardware, can be built for \$3000.

The purchase of these new cases will, therefore, not only permit the more effective arrangement of the valuable collection of furniture, and thus greatly enhance the educational value of the exhibit, but will enable the Curator to systematically rearrange the other collections mentioned and to so display them that they will show to much better advantage and be of the greatest practical assistance to art students, historians and artisans, and surpass in value and interest similar collections in any of the other American museums.

The sum needed to effect these improvements is not large, but there is at present no available fund that can be appropriated for the purpose. The Museum is dependent on its friends for the carrying out of these plans. Contributions toward such a fund will be thankfully received.



THE JOSEPH E. TEMPLE TRUST

In the year 1884, the late Joseph E. Temple, of Philadelphia, executed a deed of trust, in which the sum of \$50,000 was set aside as a permanent fund, the income of which, after his death, should form a perpetual fund, three-fifths of which were to be used for the benefit of the Museum in the purchase of works of art executed by artisans or workmen, preferring and favoring Americans, when possible, and two-fifths to be used in the establishment of scholarships in the schools connected with the Museum and in prizes for competi-